

ON THE RIO GRANDE.

The Texas Peninsula, Where Garza and His Men Are in Hiding.

HOTBED OF REVOLUTIONS.

ood Riding Places for Revolutionists-Th Breeding Grounds of the Noted Long Horned Cattle-The Cowboy Eattles-Fatal Adventures Among the Border Leaders.

Written for THE EVENING STAR.

THE RIO GRANDE BORDER IS OVER 1,500 miles long and mostly an arid wilderness, incapable of supporting, a dense population, and a most inviting region for all kinds of adventure, from shooting the abundant game to smuggling and concocting incipient revolutions. Every foot of the boundary stream, from its source in the snow-ciad Rockies, where it receives all of its waters, to where it empties in the Rio Grande, has been marked by frontier adventures-blood-curdling battles with Indians, desperadoes, smugglers and opposing national armies. After leaving the Rockies the stream finds its

way through the ancient lake valleys until it reaches its middle third along the Mexican bor der, where it makes the great bend by cutting its way through the mountain ranges that mark eau of Mexico, a wonderful region extending from the Central American peninsular to Idaho, marked by isolated ranges known as lost mountains, surrounded by basins of ancient lakes, often accompanied by volcanic craters and vast sheets of lava flow known as molpuis. THE TEXAN PENINSULA.

is known as the Peninsula, and for a year or more the inhabitants of that region have been begging Uncle Sam and Gov. Hogg to send em protection against the horse thieves of nations who infest the region. From the Peninsula's southern end to the Pecos the Rio Grands flows through a gigantic chasm which no man has explored. It rivals that of the Colorado, and is marked by falls and rapids as it cuts its way down to the coastar plain some 3,000 feet below the plateau region There it reaches one of the most peculiar strips of country—the region in which Cata-rina Ga.zı is now creating such a rumpus, and which seems to have been created for no other purpose than to afford a safe and ready refuge for those who wish to get out of the way of 'aw and order way of 'aw and order

THE LOWER BIO GRANDE COUNTRY atirely different in every physical aspect from any other portion of the United States or north of the Nucces and the great eastern Sierra Madre, which skir's from Monterey to the sea, merely for the purpose of irritating the adjacent peoples. Even those who have seen the fertile fields and beautiful prairies of Texas north of the Nucces or the magnificent mount-sins and valleys of northern Mexico have little conception of the low arid country of the Rio Grande embayment, which extends from Eagle pass to the mouth of the river for 400 miles Railroads and coar mines have reduced the western end of this area to civilization, but Intionists and bundits still hold the leading

Imagine a land as arid as Arizona, except during the autumnal mouths, during which rains have been in the habit of falling in sufficient quantity to freshen up the winter range. The country is gently unfulating, marked here and there by the arroyes so characteristic of the unconsolidated or 'rockless' geologic formations of the arid regions; country in which a band of men can easily be concealed, aided by a growth of the scrubbiest, prickliest vege-tation imaginable—a thicket of mesquite, huis-atch and catsclaw—low trees just high enough mense patches of nopal or the Mexican prickly pear, with its "leaves" (limbs) as large as a sombrero. Through this chapparal, as it is called, one cannot see a half mile, and conceal-ment is as easy as could be desired. In the side there is hardly a running stream, and only

a few widely separated water holes, which can not be easily found are a few quaint villages as peculiar as the inland towns of Peru. These, so far as agricultural and commercial conditions are concerned have not changed materially since first seen by Anglo-Americans nearly a century ago The agricultures or farmers live in the villages, and the forked-stick plow like that used by the Egyptians in the days of Moses. Haif way be-tween Forts McIntosh and Brown is Fort Ringgold, one of the chain of forts established by the United States at the time of the Texas an-

From the New York Herald. There is more character in shoes than in ny other article of a man's dress," said a broadway shoe dealer, looking out upon the ing throng one dull day. "A man may dethe eye of an expert in every other parary performance, and is not a matter of study mulation. Every man will certainly wear oes in a certain way. And as a rule he which he has worn out the pair he has on— whether on the toes, the inside or outside of the heels, on the ball of the foot, inside or out-

side of the ball, or whether the rest of the shoe | aloud: of a shoe. Every clever detective knows dive a good detective the imprint of a looking young woman turned to the fath sale foot on yielding soil and he can size said with the sweetest of smiles: "Wor stories have been written on this, but there is nothing remarkable about it to me. The intividuality in a footprint is the individuality of the wearer of a shoe and I've been noticing that for there is not the same below.

Notwithstanding the apparent absence of opulation, Mr Forter's census shows 20,000 copie on the Texan side, but they are nearly all Mexicans, of Indian descent, concealed in the chaparral in little huts of twigs known as jowis These residences are unique types of the aboriginal homes of the land and those

THE LONG-HORNED CATTLE.

who live in them are always ready for any ad-

The one industry, if it can be so called, the growing of long-horned cattle To call this an industry is a misnomer, for the cattle raise themselves, and the only industry is in the gathering and branding. Long before man had, to any extent invaded the country these cattle had thrived in a wild state and had overrun the land. In fact, nowhere else in the world do cattle multiply so rapidly, and to this corner of the country does the great range industry owe its origin Here only are to be found the fast disappearing long horns, which, owing to crossing with higher grades, will, in another decade, be numbered with the extinct species. From their breeding grounds the herds of range cattle have been driven, until every foot of the western range as far north as Montana has been stocked with them.

GARZA'S SUPPLIES.

The long horn is the life of the country. Any vagabond can live by killing these animals, and their presence affords Senor Garza an ever dant are they that only a few years ago it was commonly the custom to append to the advertisements of marks and brands in the Brown ville papers words to the effect that "all needy persons are welcome to kill an animal for food, but if any one is detected killing one for its hide he will be prosecuted."

AN IDEAL RETREAT. These conditions have made the lower Ric Grande an ideal retreat for all restless classes It is not strange then that the few American ranches are fortified, and some of them have can non mounted within their gates. All the fight ers are not on one side. The leather-leggined derers from the other side or the more ardu-ous cattle thieves of his own race. Volumes

THE COWBOY BATTLES. numerous as they have been furnish but a small proportion of events in American history the most thrilling incidents in all border warfare have taken place there From the population of mounted Mexicans, ever ready for remunerative service, any adventurous leader has been able to quickly secure a following, while the cities of Guerrero, Mies and Camargo, on the Mexican side, with their wealthy cabal-leros, have always been the first object: of attack from American troops or flibusters. The tactics of today are but repetitions. In this region numerous revolutions have been organ ers of Mexico, the real Mexico-the great cen tral plateau—being suddenly invaded from this lowland thicket The most notable of these an exile, successfully crossed into Mexico and overthrew the government of Juarez and established his place as one of the greatest and

AN UNFORTUNATE ADVENTURE FIFTY YEARS AGO But failure more frequently than success has marked the adventures of the border leaders, and the Esmeralda would be very evenly and in the very region where Bourke, Hardie, matched, while the Yorktown and Bennington and Diaz are now making history occurred one gallant Texans, numbering 350 men, captured Guerro, besieged the town of Mier, and after forty-eight hours of victorious battle with 2,000 Mexican regulars, during which over 800 of the latter were killed, were deceived into a truce and surrender. They marched overland to the City of Mexico and were decimated en route; every tenth man was shot, after having mainder were consigned to long imprisonmen in the dungeons of Perote.

most influential men in North American

THE PRESENT REVOLUTION.

The fate of the present revolution is to b determined. It would be easy to predict failure, but thousands in Mexico are ready for new adventure, and perhaps the lower Rio Grande is creating a new chapter of Mexican history.

The accompanying map will show the situation. The shaded area shows the land of revolutionary ferment. Throughout the great plateau region of Mexico crops have failed, and thousands may rise to meet Garza and aid him tier of huge counties which mark the American should his forces reach the table land at Mor

If the regiment after regiment of Mexicar troops which I saw pouring into the seat of war in September last have not yet been able to checkmate him, who can tell but what his greatly in creased army, with all the disturbed and dis contented elements of the republic to back him classes of Mexico do not love Diaz.

The United States troops can be rapidly

placed in the field to protect our border, the great quartermaster depot built by President Grant at San Antonio can readily equip. small army, and Texans, who are usually "spoiling for a fight," will be ready to be in it. One lesson at least should be gained, and that is that the Rio Grande border should be assimilated by our country in fact as well as or paper. It is time for these border troubles t subside.

She Was a Bright Little Girl.

From the Chicago Herald. In a St. Louis parlor car the father sat on there was nothing about his appearance to show that he was connected in any way with was reading a spelling book. The pretty young Then the young woman coughed and the father winked. The whole carload of passengers except the mother saw the little play. The eight year-old daughter watched it from behind her

please fix this window blind? The sun and

Naval Battle Off Valparaise and Its Probable Results-Troops for War-The Prospects A S HAS BEEN EVIDENT TO EVERYBODY for some time past, the United States govern-

IF A WAR, WHATTHEN?

How Uncle Sam Could Fight Chile

if Forced To.

PREPARED TO MEET AN ENEMY

Compared-The Formidable Capitan Prat

and What That Vessel Could Do-A Possible

ment has been making strenuous efforts to prepare itself for a war with Chile While it now looks as if there would be an amicable settlement everything is in readiness to make a bold strike to uphold the dignity and honor of our country. A STAR reporter learned that the plan of war, from the declaration of hostilities to the final surrender of the foe, has been for some months past looked up in a safe at the Navy

It only remains for Congress to touch the button and instantly the whole machinery of war springs into action. Fleets of floating fortresses, clad in steel and pregnant with destruction, would be set in motion. Armies would leap into being, as if from the sowing of the fabled dragon's teeth. In a twinkling they would be equipped with arms and ammunition, provided with subsistence and hospital service, and be off for the scene of conflict. THE CAPITAN PRAT

The Navy Department's chief anxiety at present, supposing the event of war, concerns the monster cruiser Capitan Prat, which was launched a short time ago in France. She is one of the most formidable armored battle ships in existence, being probably able to whip in a fair fight any two of our own vessels ex-cepting only the Miantonomoh. Her armament consists most importantly of four 91/4-inch guns in cupolas and six 6-inch rapid-fire guns. Each of the latter can fire five aimed shots a minute. The work of equipping her for active service has been pushed night and day for three months past, and she is all but ready to steam across the Atlantic. Her destination would not be the south Pacific, but the coast of the United States, on any part of which she can swoop down and help horself to what she wants save New York, where the Miantonomoh lies. THE TERRIBLE MIANTONOMOR.

The latter is a monitor with two turrets, each holding two ten-inch rifled guns that can fight effectively at a distance of seven miles. So effectively at a distance of seven miles. So long as she protects that harbor the Capitan Prat cannot lie outside of Sandy Hook and destroy the city from eight miles away with shot and shell. In one respect the Miantonomoh would have a great advantage over the Prat, inasmuch as she can let water into her hold so as to sink her deck beneath the surface during action, leaving only her turrets for a target.

A duel between such tremendous antagonists
would be appalling indeed. Unfortunately the
Capitan Pratisaswift ocean racer, able to steamtwice as fast as the monitor, and, although she would not be able to attack New York successfully, it is said that nothing could prevent her from appearing off Boston, Charles ton or any other important port on the Atlantic coast and levying tribute to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars as an alternative to bombardment. The coast line is at present ready and inexhaustible commissary. So abun- protected by only three unarmored cruisers, save for the Miantonomoh, which could not possibly leave New York.

THE OLD MONITORS. The Capitan Prat is a vessel of very much the same type as the New York, which was isunched the other day, although a trifle smaller. Uniuckily, the latter cannot be equipped and made ready for service inside of several months' time. It has been urged that use might profitably be made in this emergency of the old monitors, which have been kept in expensive repair by Congress ever since the re-bellion. Of these floating forts with single turers are not on one side. The leather-leggined cowboy is ever ready for a scout against plunderers from the other side or the more arduin harbors at close quarters, and might be dis-tributed to advantage among the scaports along numerous as they have been, furnish but a the seaboard, being manned by the well-dissmall proportion of events in American history ciplined naval militia. By a lucky shot one of which have occurred in this region. Some of them might even disable such a ship as the

WHERE THE NAVAL FORCE IS. At present nearly the whole of the naval force of the United States is gathered in southern waters. In the south Atlantic are the Chicago, Atlanta and Bennington. On the Pacific station are the Baltimore, Charleston and San Francisco—all three of them very formidable ships. The Boston and the Yorktown are at Valparaiso.

THE FIRST STEP

taken on our side would presumably be to seize Sandy Point, in the Straits of Magellan, for a coaling station, proceeding thence to Valparaiso. where there would doubtless be a great battle. On their side the Chileans would be represented in the conflict by three cruisers of the best modern type—the Esmeralda, the Presidente Pinto and the Presidente Errazuriz. In addition to these they would have two extremel efficient torpedocruisers—the Almirante Lynch and the Almirante Condell. The Charleston history occurred one might individually handle the Pinto and unfortunate series Errazuriz. Although somewhat inferior to the latter in point of armament, this disadvantage would be more than made up perhaps by the superiority of the United a ships in discipline and marksmanship. sides the vessels mentioned the enemy bring into the fight half a dozen old-fashioned ironclads, three of which would be apt to be troublesome. Nevertheless, owing to their ob te pattern, our unarmored cruisers might tackle them successfully.

THE CHILEAN TORPEDO BOATS. But the most dangerous antagonists of would be the torpedo cruisers and about a dozen swift torpedo boats belonging to the Chileans, which, taken all together, constitute one of the most efficient fleets of the kind in the world. Not only would they be formidable on account of the peril from their torpedoes, but by reason of their moral influence. A few rapid-flying torpedo boats hovering about a squadron would do a great deal to frighten and unnerve the adversary. There is an uncom-fortableness about the feeling of uncertainty whether one is going at almost any moment to

be blown to kingdom come that is calculate to upset the stoutest courage.
So evenly matched would the combatants be that the carnage would certainly be terrific, and two or three of our big war vessels would very likely be blown up or sunk before the battle was settled. What would happen if our little navy should be beaten and badly crippled in such a fight is most unpleasant to con-template, considering the fact that only these few floating forts exist to afford protection to this country, otherwise so entirely defenseless. A million men, well armed and organized, could do nothing to protect the cities on the seaboard against hostile cruisers. Taking these facts into consideration it is not surprising that these plucky South Americans should imagine that they have a fair show for success in a con-

LIKE THE ALABAMA. war is that our commerce would be seriously threatened. Suppose, as is In a St. Louis parlor car the father sat on one side of the sisle and the mother and their eight-year-old daughter sat on the other side. The father was a good-looking young man, and there was nothing about his appearance to They could do as the Alabama did during the recent in pursuit of Institute. rebellion—scour the ocean in pufsuit of United States merchant vessels, capturing and burning

problem let it be assumed that the fleet of the United States would whip the enemy. The hos-

each, and it is easy to see that a good many would be required when it is considered that each of the big war vessels consumed while in active service more than 1,000 tons a month. supplies of the fuel would be drawn from the leids in Wyoming, which would send up the price of coal in that part of the country out of Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, South Dakota and all that region. The problem of provid-ing a fleet of battle ships with coal 6,000 miles from any source of supply would be a novelty in warfare. Necessarily the colliers would have to be conveyed by cruisers to prevent them from being captured. The difficulty to be thus overcome would be a serious embar-

FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS o Chile all necessary arrangements could be made very quickly. Every available ocean steamship in Pacific waters would be hired for the purpose. One such vessel of good size could carry 2,000 soldiers, those for whom bunks could not be provided sleeping in their blankets on the decks. The troops would probably be shipped over the Southern Pacific railway to San Diego, where they would be put aboard the transports, which would be con-veyed by the cruisers Baltimore and San Francisco. Together with them would go the transports of the hospital corps of the army. For this latter use mercantile steamers can be ransformed into proper shape within less than week from first notice according to plans all eady at the War Department, fitted up with

THE HOSPITAL CORPS is an organization supplementary to the medical staff of the army. Its privates serve as nurses, while for every ten privates there is a hospital steward, who acts as an apothecary, compounding medicines, and also supervising the preparation and serving of food. In the field a private attends each surgeon as his orderly, carrying a canteen of water, a knife and pouch containing surgical instruments, bandages, &c. Chile is a member of the Red Cross League, and her soldiers would therefore in no case fire upon the hospital corps, whose officers and assistants are distinguished by a badge and bear a flag with a red Maltese cross on a white

THE UNITED STATES MILITIA. There are 106,000 militia in the United States, and they would doubtless be summoned first to do duty. Congress would call upon the states, each for its quota of the number of soldiers required in proportion to population. Beyond this, if more are needed, it has the power to create any number of regiments, and this would be done by establishing recruiting stations all over the country. It is estimated that 5,000,000 volunteers could be secured. There are now in the United States 7,700,000 available men for military duty. This is a fact which Chile probably does not realize, her own entire population being less than 3,000,000. Her spunky little regular army consists of about which runs away at one of their bull fights is called jeeringly a "Yankee bull." They actually believe that we are much less civilized than

There are plenty of arms on hand wherewith to equip the United States volunteers. In the arsenals are 300,000 Springfield rifles, in addition to those belonging to the militia, each man of whom has his gun. There are 1,000 tons of gunpowder on hand—enough to blow up all South America—and 50,000.000 cartridges. The government factory at Philadelphia can turn out 100,000 cartridges a day, without counting the capacity of the private arms concerns. In the way of ordnance there are in readiness for use ten batteries, each including six light steel breech-loading guns, not to mention plenty of heavier siege guns. The new Schroeder guns, which can throw a storm of explosive shells, would be likely to seriously demoralize even the Chileans. The latter are the relative value of the single agazine arm is by no means settled as yet in is that soldiers in battle are apt to pop away without taking much aim when they have nagazine guns to shoot with, while the man who loads for each discharge marks down his target every time he fires. With the Spring-field rifle six shots a minute can be placed to

advantage.

The objection urged against the magazine in the gun would seem to apply particularly in the case of the impulsive Chileans, whose method is to empty their weapons and then rush in with their curved knives. In their conflict with Peru they gave no quarter whatever in battle. TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBSISTENCE OF AN ARMY 5,000 miles from home would be likely to prove a serious problem. Ten thousand men in the field would require each month 225,000 pounds field would require each month 225,000 pounds of canned meat, 300,000 pounds of hard bread, 160,000 pounds of baked beans, 24,000 pounds of roasted coffee and 45,000 pounds of sugar. As a partial substitute for hard bread they would have while on dry land flour and yeast, carrying Dutch ovens for baking purposes. To feed the crews on board the ships proportionate supplies would be required of salt pork, hard tack, flour, preserved meat, rice, desicated vegetables, coffee and sugar. For the troops great quantities of extra clothing would have to be carried along, because in active service a suit of clothes and a pair of shoes wear out in a week or service a suit of clothes and a pair of shoes wear out in a week or two. Soldiers, however, are granted no extra allowance for the unusual wear and tear of war, being obliged to pay for everything they get that is extra. It is worth mentioning, incidentally, that, in the event of hostilities, it would be necessary to fill up the decimated engineer corps of the navy with civilians, because no engineers could be available. cause no engineers could be spared from the battle ships to convey prizes home.

THE PROSPECT OF INDEMNITY. Perhaps the most pleasant aspect of this otherwise uncheerful subject is found in looking forward to the indenmity which Chile would eventually be obliged to pay to the United States, in addition to the cost of the war. For this money the nitrate fields and guano deposits would be held as security until their revenues had yielded the required amount. One hears a great deal of the nitrates of Chile, the territory readming this the territory producing which was taken away from Peru at the end of the recent conflict between those two countries. They are deposits of nitrate of soda, left behind by ancient lakes, long since dried up, into which this mineral was brought by water filtering through the soil.

the range of mountains which walls the western edge of the continent from northern Peru 2,000 miles to the Straits of Magellan. On these mountains nothing whatever grows, and the

forts in the horseshoe-shaped harbor of Valaraniso before the city could be captured to dispute possession of the port by means of their army, and it would soon fall into our hands. Having seized Valparaiso, possession would be faken of Iquique, which is the port of the nitrate fields. At both places coal would be found, great quantities of the fuel being utilized at Iquique for the preparation of nitrates. This coal would be of the tumost value to our vessels, and for that reason it would doubtless be set on fire for the purpose of destroying it. The chances are, however, that most of it could be saved by scattering it with torpedoes and extinguishing the flames with water. The question would be then remain to be determined whether to invade the country or to hold the ports and the mitrate fields, upon which Chilelargely depends for her rovenue, until she chose to surrender. In all likelihood the latter course would be adopted in view of the great difficulty of providing for the subsistence of an army in a hostile region so far away from a base of supplies. To march upon the capital city of Santiago, eighty miles distant inland, through a strange and excessively mountainous district would be to invite disaster. The best that could be done, it is held by war wiscarces, all things considered, would be to retain control of the coast.

SUPPLIES OF COAL.

A large fleet of steamers would have to be purchased immediately upon the declaration of war for the purpose of carrying 3,000 tons there in sight. From 1840 to 1872 the deposits of the Chincha Islands were mainly relied upon for gruno, and during that period 7,000,000. tons were mined, thus nearly exhausting the supply of that locality. Since the nother islands have furnished more or less to the market. For age penguins, gannets, cranes, common stand famingoes have free century after century in their favorite haunts, so that the deposits of the vast shaving been during the deposits of yuann now the samely remainly relied to the market. For age penguins, gannets, From that point on the ancient beds of bivalves are found along the shores, in many places some of them being of enormous extent. In days gone by there were plenty of oysters somewhat farther up the Potomac than is now as these to draw upon, there will be no trouble in case of victory in getting any money back which may be spent by the United States of a war with Chile

A CHAT ABOUT CIGAR SMOKERS. Tell Me What You Smoke and I'll Tell You What You Are.

From the New York Recorder. Do you smoke? If you do, why not, at leisure, have a little chat about cigars, cigarettes and smokers. But I do not advise you to praise the brand you are just now smoking. It is too dark, it smells of yesterday's damp atmosphere, its ashes are black as a traitor's soul. The treasures of Havana, formerly the exclusive enjoyment of the opulent classes. are now within the reach of almost any one. and when crops are short in Cuba, Mexico. Virginia and the Carolinas supply the deficiency.

There are cigars of many different titles, most of them highly sounding, like the Spanish hidalgos by whom they were named. There are Cayados, Prensados, Trabucos, Londres, Regueros, Princessas Caballeros, Crevas, Peincipes de Galles, Flor Finos, Esparteros, Comerciantes, Cazadores, Medias, Regalias, Simples, Regalias de la Reina, Jenny Lind, Adelina Patti, Divina Sarah, Imperiales, Imperadores, Conchas, Bolivar, Libertadores, Conquistadores

It is for the "connoisseurs" to exercise their preferences and to contend for the very best. There are degrees in tobacco, as in wine, and the Havana brand has its pedigree, as have Chateau Yquem and Chambertin.
The "Figaro" or the "Henry Clay" has each

its peculiar aroma. In the kingdom of tobacco, as in the empire of love, among cigars, as among women, there is always the eternal and inevit ble rivalry between the blonde and the bra-net, the dark and the light, the strong and the mild, but in the smoking world, as clsewhere, if the brunettes are generally strong the blondes are not always mild. A true smoker must never select a moist

cigar, but at the same time he must not take a too dry one. As the Latin philosopher said: In medio tutissimus ibis."
The supreme felicity of the smoker depends also in great measure upon the manner in which he lights his cigar. To verify its peculiar aroma one has first to draw the smoke

through the nose. To recognize a regular smoker is an easy task—his lips always betray him. The man who resolutely puts his cigar deeply in his mouth is a firm, decided man of action, quick in movement, perhaps brusque, but generally good hearted. The youngster who cuts the end of the cigar with the teeth is rather insoliciant, careless of future dental sufferings. The bald-headed young man who calls for a penknife to cut the end of the cigar

holder is recherche in his tastes and stylish in his habits. The man who holds it with a silver clasp is a dude. The man fond of light-shaded cigars is fond of the ballet, light performances, and is considered as a passionate waitzer. The one who prefers dark-shaded cigars may be supposed a daring and fortunate graphly. audacious and successful lover, rather fond of Leopold Robert and Regnaut's vivid pictures and Verdi's music; he is partial to racing and of the United States. But Powhatan

wild hunting.
The man who buys his cigars without examination and only because they are tied in packages with ribbons perfumed by the Cuban peddler's wife is of confiding disposition, pre-sumably an obedient husband and a credulous stockholder. The one who smokes his cigar character, a faithful friend and a constant lover; the one who throws it away when only half smoked is blase. The man who allows it to extinguish itself often and lights it again is absent minded, thoughtful, but indulgent, a good fellow, inclined to tolerance, taking men for what they are, women for what they are

not; taking times as they come, he lets the stream of life flow gently by.

The "connoisseur" must be very careful when cigars show little yellow spots. If spots appear in consequence of unequal drying the cigar is horrid. If made by consequence the spots appear in consequence of unequal drying the cigar is horrid. If made by small worms the brand is generally exquisite, as worms prefer to

In any case the cigar is not the true smoker' best enjoyment; it is a kind of compromise between the cigarettes of the "coquette" and the short pipe of the cynical philosopher.

PECULIAR EYES. Curious Affliction of an English Centlems Described by Himself. lames Shaw, in Nature.

I labor under the peculiar inconver having a right eye of normal power and a shortsighted left eye. The numerals on the face of a clock five-eighths of an inch high are visible to the right eye at twelve feet distant, but in order to discern them as clearly with my left eye I require to bring that organ of vision as near to the figures as eight inches. On looking at my gold chain hanging on my breast in daylight and with both eyes, the chain, colored yellow and toward the left, is perceived by the right eye, while a steely-blue chain, another, yet the same, is perceived about an inch to the right and a little higher up. By artificial light the same phenomenon presents itself, but the difference of color is not so apparent; the yellow to the right is only dimmer. Again, when a page of Nature is being read with the short-sighted eye there appears, about an inch to the left, part of the same column, small, and the black, under arti-ficial light, like weak purple. The right-hand side of this ghost-like column is lost to the right eye, being commingled with the larger, darker letters seen by the short-sighted left, which letters seen by the short-sighted left, which cover it like the more recent writing on a palimpsest. Middle life was reached before the discovery was made. These experiences must be gone through with intent, for objects generally being perceived altogether with the right eye, all that the left seems good for is to supply a little more light. The perception of the difference of color is as good with the one eye as with the other, and the short-sighted eye can read smaller type.

Written for The Evening Star.
SHELL HEAPS OF THE POTOMAC.

Interesting Things Which the Bureau Ethnology Has Got Out of Them Recently. THE BUREAU CF ETHNOLOGY HAS REcently been engaged in an investigation of the great beds of oyster shells which mark the sites of ancient Indian fishing villages along the tide waters of the Potomac, Susquehanna and Delaware rivers. In the Potomac the ocean tides reach as far

up as Georgetown, but the water is not salt

miles down the stream below Washington.

the case, as is shown by the shell mounds on

ough for oysters until one gets about eighty

INDIANS AND OVSTERS. Savages generally seem to have found in oysters a sustaining and palatable food supply. At all events those tribes which have lived near the sea have usually resorted to them as a diet wherever found. Consuming the meats they left the shells behind them, scattering them about their dwellings and thus forming in the course of time vast accumulations. As the heaps grew the more or less temporary dwellings were uplifted upon them, and one finds by digging into them stratum after stratum of the emains of generations gone by. In such shell heaps the archeologist traces the history of peoples. The debris of their food supply for many hundreds of years perhaps composes a mass covering often hundreds of acres, in which are mingled remnants of the most varied descriptions—flint weapons, implements of many kinds, objects of prehistoric art and fragments of the very vessels in which the

oysters were cooked. TRACES OF ANCIENT DWELLINGS. On all the shell fields of the oyster region of the l'otomac are visible to this day traces of

ancient dwellings. In many cases the sites of hundreds of houses are marked by depression in the surface, the shells having been piled up around the lodges as fast as they were emptied. Throughout the beds, which are sometimes ten and even twelve feet in depth, the shells from the top to the bottom of the mass are excel ently preserved, so that they might almost be magined to have been opened within a few nonths. This fact is very interesting in itself, inasmuch as it proves that the oysters were not opened by breaking the shells, but by cook-

Perhaps most of them were roasted, but there is reason for surmising that a steaming process was generally resorted to, by heating stones and placing the bivaives upon them, covering the whole with moist seaweed. This method is followed at the present day at so-called ciam-bakes, which illustrate a process of cookery that was undoubtedly learned from the Indians originally. The latter were accustomed for centuries before Columbus discovered America to indulge in clam-bakes of their own on a great scale, whole tribes coming to the seacoast for that purpose periodically and

The shell-heap villages referred to were, in fact, fishing stations, some of them occupied permanently and others only temporarily. From the remains found in the beds, such as deer antiers, turtle bones and fish bones, it is evident that these people of antiquity were hunters also and got other food from the waters besides oysters. It is believed that from these fishing stations not merely the local population was supplied, but tribes inland

The Indians are thought to have had process for drying oysters, which they dis-posed of in great quantities by trading. It is easy to imagine that the savages of the inte-rior would have relished such sea food quite as heartily as the people of western cities today enjoy canned oysters and clams.

NOT ALL SO ANCIENT. It would be a mistake to suppose that all of these shell remains are of great antiquity, inasmuch as the heaps were occupied as fishing is a man judicious in council, methodical in his ways and well balanced.

The one who places his cigar in an amber

many thousands of inhabitants, were compelled to yield to the palefaces, who, with an instinct for destruction which is their dominant char

NEVER HAVE TIME TO SHAVE.

Men Can Spare Hours for All Sorts of Idleness, but the Barber Must Rush. From the Chicago Herald

"Shave me just as quick as you can," said the man as he hustled into the barber's chair. "I am in a great hurry." The barber performed his office in ence that marks the excellent workman, but

whether direction spurred him is a matter of doubt. When he had finished, tipped his customer out of the chair and was tucking the owel about the neck of his next patron, he broke silence and inquired:

"Did you hear that man tell me to hurry?"
"Yes Why?"

"Because I have known him about ten years and he is always in a great hurry in the barber shop. He drinks a good deal, but he is never in a hurry at the saloon. He will go from here straight to Toper's Tavern on Dearborn street, and he won't go out of there for an hour. He and he won't go out of there for an hour. He will not do any business, and he knows it before he goes. He will simply loaf there till he can find no further excuse possible, and then he will go to his office. He will spend three hours and as many dollars in the saloons every day, and he will grieve and fuss and hurry up everybody when it comes to shaving.

"Mec always have time to sit at their desks doing nothing they are never in too much of a

doing nothing, they are never in too much of a hurry at the club, they have time enough to stand for an hour any day on the street and look at women, they can lose time in bed and at breakfast, but when they come to the barber at breakfast, but when they come to the barber shop they are in frantic haste. Yet, if a hurry ing barber happens to scratch them they get him discharged. A well-shawed man is respectable, no matter what clothes he has on. One who needs shaving looks disreputable, I don't care what he wears.

"When a thing amounts to that much, if I didn't have time to shave decently I wouldn't shave at all."

Then the barber moistened the ball of his thumb and tried the edge of his scimetar, snatched a bit of paper from the shelf and relapsed into silent inudstry.

About Fat Kings.

From Temple Bar.

The elderly King of Bavaria, of heavy build, with a dull, surly face, looked like a stout German farmer. The King of Wurtemburg made up for the smallness of his domains by the colossal bulk of his person. His stay at Vienna was cut short owing to an unfortunate incident. So I told him I wasn't goin' to have no quarrel, 'specially with him, for I thought he'd come out all right when he'd got rid of his quart. But he says again: 'I'm goin' to hurt yer the first time I meet ver. Then the boys took him into the back room and I went home. But after that I was bound to carry a gun, and I got my revolver on my way to the dinin' room. 'Who are you lookin' at?' says Jim, still ugly. 'You,' says I. 'Fer what?' says he. 'Cause I'm bound to, after you warnin' me that I'm liable to get hurt, says I. He sat down, kind of careless, and started on. By —, I'd only got my back turned and stepped into the hail when he ups as quick as a flash and hits me in the neck. I gave him a good one on the jaw Then he closes in and begins to bite. At that I pulls out my gun and lets him have it. He broke away and cantered upstairs, squalin' Murder!' and I let him have it again.

"Then I didn't know what I'd done and didn't much care, but I was excited, and I meandered outdoors to cool off. The boys came out in a outdoors to cool off. The boys came out in a outdoors to cool off.

SEA SNAILS AND THEIR USES.

HOW TYRIAN PURPLE WAS MADE.

OTHER DYES FROM WHELKS.

hat the fishermen can readily see the horns of

obsters protruding from their hiding places in the rocks at considerable depths. To entice

he crustaceans from these crannies they tie a

front of the cautious lobster. When he grab

the ball they haul him up.
"Thrushes and other birds crush the shells

of land snails and extract their juicy bodies, as do also raccoons and wood rata, but

cause the slime on them sticks to their beaks

"SHOOTING DID HIM GOOD."

Western Train.

The train on one of the western railroads

was climbing a long and heavy grade, and was

moving so slowly and making so little bang

and rattle that the remarks of two men at the

back of the car were plainly audible. One of

the couple was doing most of the talking, and

when he grew animated in his criticism of the

character of a person known to both as "Jim."

"You see, I'd lent Jim money, but so long as

never do when a man is square, 'cause I

know he'll pay me when he can. But one day

I was a little short and I went into the bar and

what you're owin' me?' He was tight and ugly

and began to swear and kick and jaw about bein struck when he hadn't got only 15 cents to his name. 'All right,' says I. 'I ain't pullin' no man's leg when that's all he's got. Some

"But he kept on a-kickin' and a-swearin' and

sayin' I wasn't no friend of his, and finally he worked himself up to the fightin' pitch, and,

says he, with a reg'lar holler: 'Yer rip-whack, blinkety-blank, come outside and I'll do you up.' Well, I wasn't lookin' for a fight, and I didn't feel like fightin' that day, anyhow. Had a kind of a cold. So I told him I wasn't goin' that him for I guarrel, 'specially with him for I

much care, but I was excited, and I meandered outdoors to cool off. The boys came out in a minute and said that there was no tellin' how

ike an ornamental bead, drops from the poor

he was led on to speak in this wise:

The Queer Story That Was Overheard

woodland birds will not eat naked sns

and spoils their feathers."

From the Chicago Daily News.

Dyes and Many Other Valuable Things Which | Scene in They Are Made to Contrib

SNAILS THAT LIVE IN THE SEA ARE From the New York World.

A strolling showman h A strolling showman had set up his tent near the railroad depot in a North Carolina town. oses than most people imagine," said a naturalist to a Stan writer. "Some of them, known All along the front of the tent were as 'winkles,' are used to a great extent for food | pictures of fat women, ossified men, boa in England, being sold at the street corners constrictors, living skeletons, mermaids in the cities, where they are esteemed a great and other choice spring and summer luxury by the poor. On the North Atlantic fabrics, and business promised to be good. coast we have certain species of whelks which Just before noon a queer-looking cloud came night be made to serve admirably for eating. up in the southwest. There was a roar and a affording a cheap and nutritious diet. Even growl and a young cyclone came tearing along. in the waters of the far Arctic these gastero- It blew down an old mill and a barn or two and pods are found in great numbers, where they then struck the tent. When it passed on there sometimes supply a means of subsistence to wasn't any tent left. There wasn't any showcastaway whalers and other voyagers who man there. There wasn't the slightest trace of would otherwise perish of starvation. a fat woman, a living skeleton, a Circassian girl On the other hand, some univalves or the only guyasticutus ever born in captivity the banks. Since then the freshening of the water and the encroachments of mud have do a great deal of damage by destroying oysters in beds, drilling through the mollusks southward.

On the other hand, some univaries of the only guyasticatus ever born in capturing in North America. The site was swept bare.

A crowd of us went down from the hotel as soon as it was known that a calamity had occurred to the shells with their file like tengues and such stroying oysters in beds, drilling through the shells with their file-like tongues and sucking out the occupants of the houses into which they have thus forced an entrance. The conch, instead of drilling like the whelks, seizes the unfortunate bivalve with its power-seizes the unfortunate bivalve with its power-seizes the unfortunate bivalve with its power-seizes the unfortunate bivalve with its power-seizes. The fat woman, who was down on the bills, as weighing 800, pounds, was found in a ful foot and crushes it, by the sheer exertion bills as weighing 800

WHAT A CYCLONE DID.

Side Show in North Caroline

ful foot and crushes it, by the sheer exertion of muscular power, as one would smash an English walnut in the fist.

"Pretty nearly every one has seen the curious sea ruffles' or sea necklaces, which are found plentifully on ocean beaches. These are the egg cases of the sea smalls. They consist of a number of small disk-shaped envelopes attached along a sort of stem, the biggest of them being in the middle. In each envelope there is a little spot of thinner material, through which the young break through when they are ready to be hatched. When the female gasteropod is about to lay she buries herself in the sand, from the surface of which the 'necklace' of eggs is gradually extruded. Being thus set adrift and exposed to the elements as well as to devouring enemies few of the eggs are ever hatched, but those which do come into the world safely and survive doubtless live to a very great age.

HOW TYRIAN PURPLE WAS MADE.

first time in twenty years, and when the show-man heard of it his hands went up again and he "Two kinds of boring sea snails supplied in cried out:

"It's just my consarred line. He'll be hollerin for pork and beaus in less n an hour, and afore the week is out be'll gain twenty too splendid to be worn by any but kings and nobles. One pound of wool dyed with it was extracted being very tedious and six pounds of dye liquor being required for staining a pound of wool. The liquor was procured by placing the very reall whelks in a mortar and crush.

of wool. The liquor was procured by placing the very small whelks in a mortar and crushing them. To this the animals extracted from the larger shells were added, as well as a certain proportion of urine and water in which the snails had been allowed to putrify. In the mixture thus compounded the cloth or wool to be dyed was soaked, being afterward exposed to light. Chemists say that by this process there was effected a transformation of uric acid into purpurate of ammonia, termed for short

purpurate of ammonia, termed for short under canvas. She was right from Circassia, where they sell em for \$2,000 apiece, but what is known as the purpura.

The other species what is known as the purpura. The boys found the boa constrictor. He

was what is known as the purpura.

"The murex and purpura were mixed in the process in the proportion of two to one. Fabrics thus dyed had a very surprising and beautics thus dyed had a very surprising and beautics. was a quarter of a mile away in a negro man's garden. He was dead. He had been dead a ries thus dyed had a very surprising and beautiful effect of color, presenting metallic green reflections from one point of view and in others showing brown and purple tints. Chemists for some time imagined that the iridescence of the feathers of humming birds and peacocks was feathers of humming birds and peacocks was feathers of humming birds and peacocks was caused by a substance of the nature of murex-ide, but it is known now that these brilliant hues are occasioned by a structure of the feathshowman saw the many rips and rents and noticed that the head was missing, his grief over-came him and he had to sit down on a wagon ers which breaks up the light. Murexide is now obtained from guano as well as from molwheel. While some of us were trying to console him by figuring out how he could cut the bos constrictor up and make three or four anacondas of the pieces, a colored man brought in the mermaid—"the only genuine specimen in the mermaid—"the only genuine sp ever shown on the American continent "Other whelks also yield dyes. If the shell of the purpura lapillus be broken there is had been found in a cotton field. She was seen on the back of the animal, just under the stone dead. She seemed to have been smiling skin, a slender whitish vein, which contains a at some joke the living skeleton had got off or skin, a slender whitish vein, which contains a yellow liquor. When this liquor is applied to linen with a small brush and exposed to the sun it becomes successively green, blue and purple, and finally settles into a brilliant unchangeable crimson. Housewives of New Engchangeable crimson. Housewives of New Engchangeable crimson. changeable crimson. Housewives of New England have growing abundantly on the seaside rocks in their neighborhoods little living bottles of indelible ink, not to be excelled in beauty or durability by any manufactured hunted all that afternoon for the g product, since neither acid nor alcohol will and the cunderange, but they ha hunted all that afternoon for the guyasticutus affect this juice of the whelk.
"On the Pacific coast are numerously found escaped to the woods to howl for gore as the darkness fell and become living to ittle shells of sea snails, of a species called the 'olivella,' because of their resemblance to olives, out of which the Indians used to cut disks that were extensively used for coins. the British at New Orleans, but the showman said it was no use. He had been crushed to earth, and though he had 400 pounds of fat pearls of the pink conch are very valuable and have a beautiful wavy sheen like that of watered silk. In the neighborhood of the Sermudas the sea is extremely transparent. so

start life anew he could not do the phonix ac

She was remantic, says the London Tid-Bits. Her father was a milliou aire, whose life had been devoted to sausage making. He was practical naturally, but all the poetry of the family was centered in her. She was beloved by another millionaire's son, but the had been reading romance and stuff and when he proposed to her romance and stuff and when he proposed to her she declared he must do something poetical for her. "Dearest, what can I do?" "Become a poor artist." "I couldn't be any other kind of an artist." "I mean you must intend to be-come a poor artist. Pa does not know you. You must come and make love to see and I will fail in love with you. Pa will object and make a row. We will clope and get matried and when it is all over will tell him and it will be deit is all over we'll tell him and it will be de-lightful." And so he became a poor artist and took a poor studio, and daubed on canvas and pretended to paint pictures. And there was another millionaire's daughter got to coming to his studio and sitting for her picture. In those delightful tete-a-tetes he forgot all about the romantic maiden and when the romantic maiden came one night in peasant costume as a sweet surprise to run away with him she found he was married to the other girl and had I had cash in my clothes I never asked for it. gone off on his honeymoon. She thinks that remances are all lies neward that nothing hap-

pens in real life as it happens in books. I says to Jim: 'Could you let me have a little of From the London Evening Standard. The first railway to Jerusalem will, we ar

told, be opened in the spring of the coming year. It is a short line, running only from Joppa, the nearest port on the Mediterranean and intended to accommodate the growing pas senger and other traffic between that place and the holy city. The work of construction is being carried out by a French company, who began laying down the line in April, 1890. It is fully expected that the speculation will be paying one The company anticipates, at all events, making large profits, after paying the shareholders a guaranteed interest of 5 per cent. It is stated that over 40,000 persons land destination of most of the passengers and mer chandise they convey being the capital of Pales has trebled its population within the past thirt ticket from the port in question and Jerusalem for 20 francs, and, what is more, they will be of the promoters are fulfilled, be

From Puck. vest. During the same period an agreeable grasshopper devoted the whole of his time to

In the winter, after several days of fer the grasshopper applied to the ant for door relief. So far from granting the desifood, the ant coldly declined to set up so m

Scene 2.—Six thousand must do not be shall room, with all accessories of civilized splendor; the stone reappears cut and in the shape of a brillians, enhancing the charms of some young loveliness and prompting the insome young loveliness and prompting the insome young loveliness and honor her